

## VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Bluestone River. The stream was listed on the 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standards for bacteria. . The 2002 303(d) List modified the Bluestone River impairment to reflect further data which extended the segment length and added two impairments, the General Standard for Benthics and PCBs in fish tissue.

The first public meeting on the development of the TMDL to address the Benthic and Bacteria Impairments for Bluestone River will be held on **Thursday, September 11, 2003, 7:00 p.m.** at the Virginia Avenue United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in Bluefield, VA. The Church is located at 1901 Virginia Avenue in Bluefield, Virginia.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

Bluestone River is located in Tazewell County and flows through Bluefield, Virginia. The impaired segment is approximately 13.2 miles long. It begins upstream at the Route 460 bridge and continues to the West Virginia /Virginia State line.

The public comment period will end on October 14, 2003. Fact sheets on the development of the TMDL for the bacteria and benthic impairments are available upon request or can be viewed at the DEQ website: <http://www.deq.state.va.us/tmdl/>. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Nancy T. Norton, P. E. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Nancy T. Norton, P. E., Department of Environmental Quality, P. O. Box 1688, Abingdon, Virginia 24212-1688, telephone (276) 676-4807, fax (276) 676-4899, or e-mail [ntnorton@deq.state.va.us](mailto:ntnorton@deq.state.va.us).